

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**  
**PCT**  
**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**  
(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>P0401</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <div style="float: right; font-size: small;">see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</div>	
International application No. <b>PCT/AU2004/000039</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>13 January 2004</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>13 January 2003</b>
Applicant <b>MUIR, Simon Andrew Huber</b>		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of **3** sheets.

☐ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ The text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ The text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 7

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000039

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup>: A01C 23/04, B01F 1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

Refer to electronic data bases consulted below.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
 Derwent World Patent Index and esp@cc and USPTO Internet sites: using keywords: hose, tube, pipe, conduit, fertiliser, granular, powder, particulate, meter, dispense, disperse, dose, in-line, series, cartridge and similar terms.

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 2604213 A (UNIFLEX SPA) 11 August 1977 See whole document.	1-21
A	US 4477960 A (KNAPP) 23 October 1984 See whole document.	1-21
NOTE: THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS HAVE NO PATENT FAMILY MEMBERS.		



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 6 February 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 16 FEB 2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer I.A. KILBEY Telephone No : (02) 6283 2115

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International application No.

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**Box No. IV Text of the Abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)**

Cylindrical dispenser (51) is attached in-line to a hose so as to add dispersible solids (89) in the form of granules or cartridges, eg of fertiliser, to liquid, eg water, flowing (75) through the hose. A proportion of the flow passing through conduit (85) (which has holes, slots, or is fibrous) enters surrounding compartment (87) and leaves it again to form part of flow (75) carrying with it dissolved, suspended, etc, fertiliser absorbed during its passage through compartment (87).